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FRENSDORFF TO SERVE
WITH NAVAJO CHURCH

DPS 83036

The Rt. Rev. Wesley Frensdorff, Episcopal Bishop of Nevada, will serve as interim bishop for the Episcopal Church in Navajoland.

Frensdorff was asked to take the interim post -- while continuing to serve as bishop of Nevada -- by the Rt. Rev. John M. Allin, presiding bishop, following a request from the Council of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland.

Frensdorff's participation was approved by the Nevada Diocesan Council with support from Paul Chalk, diocesan treasurer and member of Executive Council, who has worked with the church in Navajoland providing financial and administrative advice.

The Episcopal Church's involvement with the Navajo dates back to the establishment at Fort Defiance, Ariz., of Chapel and Boarding School. The Rev. Philip Allen, who formerly worked with congregations in Nevada, is now at Fort Defiance.

In order to strengthen and to bring together the Navajo congregations which have since been established in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, the General Convention in 1976 established an Area Mission of Navajoland as a first step to becoming a diocese.

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Funding support for the area is through Coalition-14.

In 1978 the presiding bishop appointed the Rt. Rev. Frederick Putnam, then suffragan bishop of Oklahoma, as bishop to the Navajo. Putnam retired at the end of 1982.

Because no bishop is available for full-time appointment, Frensdorff will serve on an interim basis until a full-time bishop becomes available.

Frensdorff said he was interested in the assignment because he believes "a part-time interim bishop could assist the Navajo significantly to move forward, especially if some of the funding otherwise used for a bishop could be available to bring in some other resources for education and training of local leadership."

He said elements of the Nevada experience with Total Ministry development may be shared with the Navajo in identifying and developing the ministries of the church members.

Frensdorff said he anticipates the Diocese of Nevada will be compensated for his time working with the Navajo. He estimates the assignment will take about a quarter of his time.

The compensation will help strengthen the Total Ministry program in Nevada, including assistance for the Rev. Phina Borgeson, coordinator of the program.

In his newsletter announcement about the assignment, Frensdorff wrote, "Let us rejoice together at this opportunity for inter-dependence in the Body of Christ."

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CHURCH FUNDS AID
FLEEING GHANIAN

DPS 83037

NEW YORK (DPS, Feb. 24) -- The Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief has contributed \$10,000 to aid thousands of Ghanians who were evicted from Nigeria.

The funds will be used as part of an international response to provide clothing, food and medicine to those who streamed out of Nigeria in late January after that country threw out all the "illegal laborers" who had been working there. Estimates from United Nations sources indicate that nearly 2 million people were affected, about half of them from Ghana.

Officials of the National and World Councils of Churches and the councils of churches in Ghana, Benin, Togo and Nigeria were hard pressed to meet the immediate and unexpected need with supplies already on hand because -- as is often the case in marginal economies -- aid from ongoing projects is distributed as soon as it arrives.

The Episcopal Church's contribution will be used to help gather and ship the needed supplies. Federal aid programs will pay the sea shipping costs.


Another \$10,000 grant from the Presiding Bishop's Fund was sent to the Church in Uganda -- part of the Fund's continuing appeal for that country -- to provide assistance to the family of the martyred Archbishop Janani Luwum. The funds will be used to provide a home for the widow and orphans of the man slain in the regime of Idi Amin.

Because of the long historical relationship between the Episcopal Church and the Church in Uganda, the Episcopal Church has been one of the main supporters of Ugandan Anglicanism and the Fund has accepted gifts for a Uganda appeal for some years.

Severe floods in Peru and Ecuador have affected nearly 2 million people and left crops and clean water supplies in jeopardy. The Fund answered appeals for help with three grants totalling \$8,000.

What was called the worst floods in a century hit the Piura area of Peru, destroying homes and affecting some 300,000 people. Two Fund grants -- \$2,000 directly to the diocese of Peru and \$3,000 to the Church World Service appeal -- will be used for emergency supplies and to start rebuilding programs.

The Anglican Bishop of Ecuador received \$3,000 from the Fund after initial reports from that country told of devastated crops and ruined communication with the flood-torn area. The government of Ecuador admitted that it had only enough emergency food for 70,000 people, a fraction of those affected by the floodwaters.



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BISHOP HOBSON DIES AT 91,
FOUNDED FORWARD MOVEMENT

DPS 83038

CINCINNATI (DPS, Feb. 24) -- The Rt. Rev. Henry Wise Hobson, the senior member of the Episcopal Church House of Bishops, died at his home near here in early February.

Hobson served as Bishop of Southern Ohio from 1931 until 1959. When he was consecrated as bishop coadjutor in 1930 at the age of 38 he was the youngest bishop in the Church.

The bishop was known throughout the Church as the founding chairman of Forward Movement Publications; an activity that was an outgrowth of the missionary zeal that characterized his episcopate. He was responsible for new churches near universities and colleges in the diocese, instituted a traveling cathedral to reach people in remote areas of the then largely rural see and saw the opening of new diocesan headquarters near the end of his tenure.

In a biography of its founder that Forward Movement published in June last year, Hobson described his motives: "I think there is nothing more important than the spread of the Christian religion to the world. I think that ultimate solutions to so many of the problems that we have will come only through the spread of the Gospel."

After graduating from Yale Univeristy, Hobson went overseas in World War I, was wounded twice and received the Distinguished Service Cross. Upon his return to the U.S., he attended the Episcopal Theological School and began his ordained ministry in 1920. He served parishes in Connecticut and Massachusetts before he was called to the episcopate in 1930.

During his career, he received many academic, civic and interfaith honors.

The bishop is survived by his widow and three children.

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The Mission Issues and Strategy Advisory Group is a recent development in Anglican affairs. It was created by the fifth meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council (1981), and has met once, in 1982. It brings together representatives of autonomous Anglican Churches and Mission Agencies in a forum which seeks to co-ordinate Anglican efforts in global mission.

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THREE ANGLICAN EVENTS
TO BE HELD TOGETHER

DPS 83039

LONDON (DPS, Feb. 24) -- The Secretary General of the Anglican Consultative Council, the Rev. Samuel Van Culin has announced that three Anglican events will be held together later this year.

Meetings of the Primates of the Anglican Communion, the Standing Committee of the Anglican Consultative Council, and the Mission Issues and Strategy Advisory Group are to be held at St. Paul's Theological College, Limuru, Kenya Oct. 3-12 he said.

The Standing Committee meets from Oct. 3-8. It is hoped that there will be a Workshop on Development sponsored by the Church of the Province of Kenya on Oct. 9. Then the meeting of Primates will begin on Sunday, Oct. 10 with a special service in St. Paul's Cathedral, Nairobi with the Archbishop of Canterbury preaching. The Mission Group will meet at the same time as the Primates.

In announcing the three meetings Van Culin said: "The decision to hold the Primates Meeting end on with the Standing Commiteee of the Anglican Consultative Council and in close proximity to those exploring the Anglican contribution to world mission is quite deliberate. It signals a determination by all concerned to achieve greater cohesion at international level in the Anglican Communion. With the Archbishop of Canterbury present for all three meetings he provides in his office and in his person that central focus which is so essential in our system of 'dispersed authority'".

This will be the third meeting of Anglican Primates -- principal Bishops and Archbishops representing each of the 27 Provinces of the 64 million strong worldwide Anglican Communion. Regular Primates' meetings were recommended by the Lambeth Conference in 1978 and since that time two have been held in Ely, England (1979) and Washington, DC (1981).

Agenda details for the three meetings are still being worked out. The Primates are likely to continue discussions from their two previous meetings on Authority in the Anglican Communion and will also consider some of the current social questions which affect the life of their Churches. Both they and the Standing Committee will be giving preliminary thought to the next Lambeth Conference. The ACC body will be concerned with the agenda for the next full meeting of the Council which takes place in 1984.

The Standing Committee acts on the Council's behalf between full meetings. It has ten members drawn from Australia, Canada, East Asia, England, Uganda, the Episcopal Church, and the West Indies and includes the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"We (the Church) are most newsworthy when we are Christ-like," he said.

Practical advice on the use of video in communication was given by Sonia Francis, radio and television officer at the Episcopal Church Center and by the Rev. Jon Paul Davidson, an Episcopal priest and owner of his own production firm, Tri-Video Productions, Incline Village, Nev.

Frances provided instances of video effectively used, and Davidson offered information about equipment currently available and the advice to consider the sender, the message, and the target in all communications.

The presentations were followed by discussion on instances where use of video would be helpful in communication within a diocese and to the general public.

Linda Bee Massey, editor of *The Prairie Spirit*, diocesan newspaper for the Diocese of Western Kansas, presented a brief workshop on publications.

Participants viewed television advertisements prepared by several diocese from around the country and listened to radio tapes prepared by the Diocese of San Joaquin. The radio tapes were presented by the Rev. Donald A. Seeks, chairman of the San Joaquin communications commission.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the Rt. Rev. John F. Ashby, bishop of Western Kansas, put communication in a Gospel perspective.

The writers of the Gospels, he said, were men of different backgrounds, education, and traditions. The common thread, in terms of communication, was that each said, in effect, "In light of what my world is like, how am I going to tell the story," said Ashby.

He said he believes communication is being taken seriously; "we are just doing it badly."

He added that "the ministry of communication is an honest-to-God ministry."

Participants agreed the session was helpful and expressed interest in another C-14 communications meeting centering on the printed media.

Bishops attending were Joseph T. Heistand of Arizona, William C. Wantland of Eau Claire, David B. Birney of Idaho, Jackson E. Gilliam of Montana, Harold Hopkins of North Dakota, Thomas K. Ray of Northern Michigan, R. M. Trelease Jr. of Rio Grande, Victor M. Rivera of San Joaquin, Bob G. Jones of Wyoming, and Ashby.

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COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP
BRINGS WIDE SPECTRUM

DPS 83040

by Dick Snyder
Editor, *The Desert Churchman*

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (DPS, Feb. 24) -- Improving communication at several levels was the goal of Coalition-14 communicators, program executives and bishops who gathered at the Franciscan Retreat Center here in early February.

The conference was funded by a grant from Venture in Mission, which had also funded a communications survey reviewed by the participants.

The survey, which had the support of all Coalition bishops, was participated in by two-thirds of those bishops, 31 percent of the clergy and two percent of the laity.

The poll indicated the bishop is usually the major source of information within a diocese, with clergy obtaining information at diocesan meetings and the laity from parish newsletters.

In comments during the conference, Margaret H. Andersen, associate communication officer at the Episcopal Church Center said one response to the survey will be "to figure out where our barriers are."

She added the results are "alarming because they indicate a lack of communication. It suggests communication is not being taken seriously."

Andersen coordinated the conference. She has been associated with the Coalition since its inception.

The Rev. Canon Richard J. Anderson, executive for communication at the Center said he wished "more Episcopalians would realize that communications is rooted in the Gospel, that each Christian would perceive him or herself as a communicator."

He added that effective use of printed media, including diocesan newspapers and newsletters and parish bulletins "can be produced better, with better graphics, at rock-bottom prices.

"Effective communication depends upon the desire for effective communication by the leadership," he commented. "Leaders should support those to whom communication duties are assigned."

Another speaker was the Rev. Miles O'Brien Riley, director of the office of information for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco.

In an animated presentation, which included video taping spontaneous interviews with the bishops, Riley gave practical advice for preparing for interviews.